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Volume No. 79. Issue 21

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 709 Oklahoma Blvd, Alva, OK 73717

March 8, 2018

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Enrollment numbers continue to drop





Photo by Corey Shirey

Students enrolled at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, use the facilities available to them, such as the library and the student center. For more on enrollment see page three.

Career & Internship fair coming soon

By SAMI MCGUIRE Sports Editor

Spring is a time of new things. Spears of green grass push through the soil. Baby calves play in the pastures. College students graduate, and move on from college in to a career.

The confusion and struggle of leaving school is what career services

at Northwestern try to help with. That is why Northwestern holds the annual Spring Career/Internship Fair. It is a chance for students to meet with potential employers. It is a chance for students to start their professional lives, whether it is a new job or a summer internship.

The fair will be held from 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. on March 12 in the Student Center. Andrea Lauderdale, career services coordinator, is in charge of

Although the fair is focused of students, anyone is welcome to attend, Lauderdale said.

'We encourage all students to attend," she said, "whether you are looking for a job right away or not. Just come see who's there. Make connections. Get an idea of who is hiring so that you have some

resources for when it's your turn." There will be many possible

employers. Some will be looking to hire and others will be looking for interns. Several majors require internships. Even though several majors don't require internships, they still can count for elective credits.

"Internships are so important because they give you real, hands-on experience," Lauderdale said.

Students coming to the fair should come prepared. Many possible employers will be there so students

should dress professionally and bring several copies of their resume. Students looking for help with their resumes can also go to career services

"As always, the Career Services Office is here to help," Lauderdale said. "Whether it be helping create or update your resume to assisting you with your job search efforts, come by! We are happy to help however we

eer & Intern

BancCentral

OG&E

Juice Plus

Tower Gardens

Alliance Oklahoma Home Health

> **TPI Staffing** Service, Inc.

Tutor Care

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St Mary's Regional **Medical Center**

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Hillcrest Hospital South

OKDRS Voc Rehab

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NorthCare

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News



DACA provides opportunities

By MEGAN MAHARRY

Student Reporter

Imagine packing up and leaving behind the only life you have ever known. Imagine having multiple pairs of shoes, but only being able to take one. Imagine flying somewhere new for the first time. Imagine facing border patrol officers when they do not speak your language. Finally, imagine the thrill of starting a new life in an entirely new country.

It was no longer green, white and red, but red, white and blue. Seven-year-old Karla Lopez was in America.

Karla Lopez is one of many immigrants who came to the United States in search of a better life. She left Mexico with her mom and brother at age seven to join her dad in the United States. Her dad had spent six months working in California before bringing the rest of his family to be with him.

Lopez is currently a senior criminal justice major at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. She is on the Lady Ranger soccer team and is vice president of the Spanish Club. She has this opportunity because of DACA.

DACA is the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. It is an immigration policy that was put into action under President Barack Obama in June of 2012.

This policy helped minors or immigrants who entered the country illegally to obtain a work permit and attend college. DACA mainly targeted children who were brought into the United States by their parents. Under DACA, immigrants were protected from being detained or deported.

Individuals have to apply for DACA through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. There are several criteria applicants must meet in order to receive DACA, such as their age when they came to the United States and no criminal record.

Obama had originally planned to expand the DACA to help cover additional individuals. However, it was denied by the courts.

In 2017, approximately 800,000 individuals were enrolled in the DACA program.

According to the Center for American Progress, there are approximately 43.3 million foreign-born people in the United States. Of these 43.3 million people, 11.1 million are unauthorized immigrants and 1.7 million hold temporary visas.

A statistic from The Center for American Progress states Ending DACA and kicking recipients out of the labor force would cost the United States \$433.4 billion in GDP and decrease Social Security and Medicare contributions by \$24.6 billion over the next decade.

President Donald Trump and his administration began the plan of phasing out DACA in September of 2017. Lopez received her DACA at age 18. She was able to attend college, work, obtain her driver's license and she was no longer afraid of being sent back by authorities.

"I felt like I won the lottery," Lopez said.

With DACA, Lopez also had the opportunity to visit her family back in Mexico with permission. With DACA eliminated, however, she is unable to travel to Mexico anymore. She may be unable to see her family ever again unless she gets citizenship.

"I had a chance to see my family, but Trump took it away from me," Lopez said.

She said the day Trump issued the phasing out of DACA, she was devastated. She said she felt as if all her dreams fell apart and she was scared of what might happen.

"I was crying," Lopez said. "I have no words to describe it."

It is still unsure of what will become of individuals who had DACA. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services representative Jake said as of now, individuals who had DACA cannot be deported or detained. Jake said it is still unknown what will happen when an individual's DACA status is officially eliminated.

"DACA is not a direct pathway to citizenship," Jake said.
Until further action is taken, USCIS states if an individual is currently on DACA, they will retain their period of deferred action until it expires, unless it is terminated or revoked.

According to the PBS News Hour, March 5, 2018 is the date DACA will officially end and individuals will no longer be able to apply for it.

The Trump Administration and Congress will discuss what action will be taken after this date.

According to Fox News, earlier this year, Trump released his "four pillars" of immigration reform, which included a provision for legal status for DACA recipients and others who would be eligible for DACA status. The White House estimated that total to be 1.8 million people.

PBS News Hour said the people who are currently protected under the program will not see their status change immediately, but could be vulnerable to deportation if Congress does not pass a law by March granting them protection. Congress will look for a program with a permanent legislative solution.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the phasing out of DACA on a video interview. He spoke about how DACA denied jobs to Americans by allowing immigrants to take those jobs.

The Washington post said Trump and his administration determined that the DACA program is unlawful and unconstitutional and cannot be successfully defended in court.

The Washington Post quoted Trump as he said he had "no second thoughts" about DACA.



Photo provided by Megan Maharry

Family celebrates the opportunities given to them thanks to DACA

While the decision to end DACA is popular with Trump and his administration, others disagree with the decision. It is a controversial issue across the United States.

Yazmin Gomez is a sophomore at NWOSU. She was born in California, which automatically ensured her citizenship. Her parents, however, came to the United States from Mexico and she had family and friends who were undocumented.

Gomez said after the phasing out of DACA was announced she felt she was being attacked and categorized.

"Even though I was born here I felt like my rights were taken away," Gomez said.

She said people should consider the fact that the people under DACA are not different from everyone else.

Dylan Painter is a former graduate of NWOSU and an assistant coach at a junior college in Lamar, Colorado. He said DACA has not affected his life so he does not really care about it one way or another.

"I normally lean toward kindness and caring, but other than that I have no feelings about it," Painter said.

DACA is a controversial issue that will continue to be up for debate across the country. Individuals on DACA are currently in a waiting game as the results are still being decided. Lopez stresses they deserve the best outcome.

"We're just young adults trying to reach our dreams," Lopez said. "We're here to be better people and have a better life."

News

Enrollment continues dropping

By SAMI MCGUIRE

Sports Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has taken some hits in enrollment this school year.

In the fall, Northwestern's enrollment numbers dropped due to new international policies put in place by President Donald Trump. This semester enrollment is still lower than last spring, but Janet Cunningham, Northwestern president, stays optimistic.

"We aren't down as much as we thought we might be," Cunningham said. "Our indicators for next fall are running really good. We had a great Ranger Preview. Back in November we had the Ranger Showcase Saturday that seemed very well attended. Our President's Leadership Class numbers, applications coming in, seem to be very good for that."

According to preliminary enrollment data the headcount totaled to 1,857 students this semester, which is down 88 students from last spring.

Northwestern compares spring to spring and fall to fall in enrollment numbers to get more consistent variables. Fall to spring enrollment always drops due to a number of factors such as family issues, first-time students, drop outs, transfers and graduating students.

As can be expected, when Northwestern is down on enrollment so are credit hours being taken. To keep retention Northwestern has started a 15-to-finish campaign this past year.

"If you are a student just starting you need to take 15 hours every semester because that will allow you to graduate in four years," Cunningham said. "It seems to have been a positive initiative. Our number of credit hours per student, especially freshman, has gone up."

Not only has the 15-to-finish been a big push to keep students on track for graduation and keep Northwestern's credit hours up, it also has been shown to help in other ways.

"A lot of studies show that students, no matter what their preparation level is, do better when they are enrolled in at least 15 hours," Cunningham said. "I think the tendency is that if you have a little weaker student, it is better to just put them in 12 hours, but that has not won out in statistics. The structure with more time in class helps the students do better overall."

Northwestern started this push fall semester when spring enrollment opened. The campaign has been advocated through freshman connection, social media and student advisors.

The 15-to-finish targets current and future Rangers. Retention and recruitment are both important to Northwestern.

"We use a two pronged approach," Cunningham said. "It is certainly cheaper to retain than it is to recruit. But we are always trying to get that good freshman class because that kind of tells the tale for several years into the future."



Photo Provided By

Natalie Miller, assistant certification officer and Staff Council chair, and Staff Council member Janet Valencia, secretary of the Division of Business and department of social work, present Custodian Jeffery Lee with the Campus Kudos Award.

Announcing winner of Campus Kudos Award

Jeffery Lee, custodian for the Jesse Dunn building on the Alva campus at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, has been selected by the Staff Council as the recipient of the 2017 fall semester Campus Kudos Award.

Natalie Miller, assistant certification officer and Staff Council chair, and Staff Council member Janet Valencia, secretary of the Division of Business and department of social work, presented Lee with the Campus Kudos award.

The person nominating Lee for this award said, "Custodian Jeffery Lee performs an excellent job keeping everything in the building clean and in order, whether during the regular school year or during the summer when student groups come to campus. He has proved to be one of the best workers in the building in my 13 years

here. Also, he is always very friendly, conscientious and efficient. We have been fortunate to have him work here in Jesse Dunn these past few years. He deserves public recognition for his efforts."

Campus Kudos is a public acknowledgement created by the Northwestern Staff Council that applauds the efforts of eligible staff members who have displayed an act of kindness above their job responsibilities. This award is presented each semester, including the summer term.

"I love making this college a better place by working hard at my job and being professional," Lee said about receiving his award. "I try to go out of my way to be there for anyone who needs help. Life is what you make it. It's not easy. Work hard, and be the best you can be."

Travel to Europe



Photo Provided By Michelle Willson

The NWOSU 2018 Study Abroad group held a meet and greet/ trip meeting for those who are enrolled in the program. The group is traveling to London, Edinburgh and Dublin for a 10 day trip in May 2018. Mr. Kyle Larson and Dr. Kathryn Lane are the Trip leaders. After a bit of technical difficulties the Alva group video chatted with other students, faculty and family members who are going on the trip but could not make it to the meeting. The meeting went over topics of transportation to the airport as well as passports and fundraising ideas.



Come partake in annual lecture

Northwestern Oklahoma State University will be hosting its annual Presidential Lecture Series. On March 13, this program will be held in the Ranger Room inside the Student Center on the Alva campus.

The focus of this lecture will be Andrew Jackson, who has been known as Old Hickory and for claiming to serve as the People's President from 1829 1837.

A luncheon will also be taking place, and will be at 11 a.m. The general public is then invited to come at

noon and participate in the observation of the formal program.

And while the luncheon is invitation only, the annual lecture is not only open to the public, but also free and followed by light refreshments.

The guest speaker of this program will be Howard Kittell. Kittell is president and CEO of the Andrew Jackson Foundation in Nashville, Tennessee.

He will speak of the life of the seventh president as well as any career opportunities in public history.





Editorial

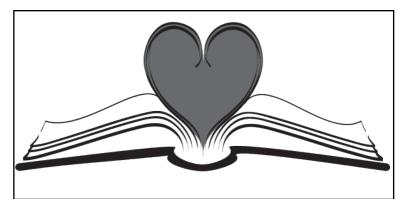
All you need is a book

By TIFFANY WILLSON Columnist

What is the title of the last novel you read? Chances are you cannot remember because it has been that long ago. If you do remember, there is a possibility it was your senior year of high school and was a required reading.

Christopher Bergland, author of an article on Psychology Today, cited a study that found 42% of college graduates will never read a book following their graduation. These people stop reading after they are no longer required to. Maybe they never found the joy that reading can bring, or they would rather watch TV instead.

With the rise in electronic production and use, it is more important than ever to reevaluate the important effects of reading on the brain. Most people would agree that teaching children to read is an incredibly important skill. They must learn how to read and comprehend words to get through school and to communicate to others, but the importance of reading goes far beyond that. But have you



considered that reading may have more benefits than that or that it could be just as beneficial for adults?

Research has shown that the human brain was never really intended to read. Humans were born with the innate drive for survival. To hunt for food, build campfires and whatever necessary to ensure the continuation of our species

Reading is a learned skill, and a difficult one to master. According to an article posted on the United Kingdom The Telegraph, when you read, you are utilizing portions of the brain that have an entirely different function. You also enhance connectivity between two different parts of your brain. These areas are the

"left temporal cortex, an area of the brain associated with language comprehension, as well as in the brain's central sulcus, which is associated with sensations and movement (Bergland)."

Reading is restructuring your brain! As cool as that is, reading a good novel also helps the reader put themselves into the footsteps or position of the protagonist. The ability to imagine yourself in the story, increases a person's ability to emphasize with other, which is a more valuable presentation of the value of reading.

Reading require much more imagination and interaction than watching a television show. By visualizing scenes in a book and interacting as the main character, the reader shows an increased understanding of the characters beliefs and motivation, even if they differ from their own. Each of these aspects are minimalized, if not completely diminished, by watching TV instead.

After revisiting the importance of reading and understanding the profound affects it can have on my body and attitude, I challenged myself to read, at least, two books a month. I challenge you today, to continue reading when you can. To keep reshaping your brain and discovering new worlds!

"Reading is restructuring your brain! As cool as that is, reading a good novel also helps the reader put themselves into the footsteps or position of the protagonist."

High school books you should read

- The Great Gatsby
 - F. Scott Fitzgerald
- To Kill A Mockingbird - Harper Lee
- Night Elie Wiesel
- Lord Of The Flies
 - William Golding
- Heart of Darkness
 - Joseph Conrad
- The Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger

Statistics from Buzzfeed.com

Why you should think about joining a sorority

By MADI WILSON

Columnist

First of all, you may ask "What is a sorority?" Well, Webster's Online Dictionary defines a sorority as a "social club for female undergraduate students." Although, it is much more than that

To me, being in a sorority has offered so many things that help to enrich my life tremendously. Because of a sorority, I have fostered friendships with so many wonderful, like-minded young women that will last me a lifetime.

I know that my sorority sisters will be there whenever I need

them. In a sorority, you make so many fun, positive memories with your sisters, and you get the opportunity to be connected with different women all over the country that share the exact same Greek letters and values as you do. Because Panhellenic sororities are national organizations, you are able to share a common bond with young women on almost any college campus in the United States. I have also been exposed to several different service projects, and charitable giving events.

Being in a sorority is a great way to get involved in your community and give back to others. Both of the sororities here on campus are very active with



Photo Provided

The Alpha Signa Alpha sorority

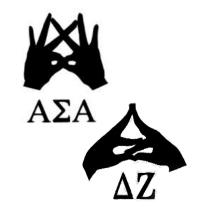
several different philanthropic organizations that seek to make a positive impact on those around them. Sorority truly is a great way to come together as a group, and lend a helping hand with a smile to those who need it most.

Sorority also offers several opportunities to be a leader, and strive for excellence. Maintaining your grades is an important part of being a sorority woman, and you have caring sisters who help to hold you accountable, and help you study for exams as well as

cheer you on when you do well on a pop quiz, or final paper or something of that nature.

In a sorority, you are given the opportunity to run for an office, which instills a great deal of responsibility and leadership. Over all, sorority gives young women an outlet to participate in something much bigger than themselves.

When you put on those Greek letters, it gives you a sense of pride knowing that you are no longer only representing yourself, but you are also representing a wonderful organization, and several women that wore those letters before you.





something is lost;

when character is lost,

all is lost.

-Billy Graham



The girls of NWOSU's Delta Zeta Sorority



Official Newspaper Northwestern Oklahoma **State University**

Published weekly throughout the school year except during examination periods and holidays and distributed to students and staff.

Spring 2018 Staff

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Letters to the editor shall bear the author's handwritten signature, hometown, classification, title, etc., address and phone number for verification and shall be kept on file. Unsigned letters to the editor $\underline{will\ not}$ be published.

Letters must be turned in by noon on Tuesday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted

All letters represent the views of the author.

Other Voices

Public figures for president?

By CAROLINE WILLIAMS The Catalyst Newspaper

I followed Elmo's instructions on how to count to five with my fingers, and my cat, Buzz, was a leader in teaching me how to hide. Both Elmo and Buzz the cat served as my personal leaders. However, I would not advocate that either of them become president. Yet, it feels like that is similar to what is occurring lately in American politics. As many people are disappointed that Donald Trump is our president, we are all pointing fingers at any and every public figure who has served a personal leadership role in our lives. Unfortunately, figures of personal inspiration are not necessarily fit to lead a

Cartoon by Lo Wall

After giving an inspirational speech at the Golden Globes, Oprah was called on to run for president. Oprah is a magnificent human, and I believe she possesses some magical aspects to her being; she is able to make the impossible, possible. However, she is not a world leader. She is not well-versed in politics, and she is not fit to run



America.

Imagine if Oprah said to the Army, as if on her T.V. show, "You get to send 10,000 more troops to Afghanistan!" While I realize that statement most likely would not come out of Oprah's mouth, my point is that that is not what she is trained to do. We do not actually want Oprah to ever say those words. We love Oprah on a spiritual level, as a genius woman who turned her entire life around from childhood and now changes other people's lives. She is not, though, a woman who we expect, or actually want, to serve as commander-in-chief, making decisions that greatly impact our entire country.

Additionally, part of what

sparked the public's idea of Oprah's running for president was the speech she made at the Golden Globes. It was a tremendous speech, but, it was only a speech. The fact that one speech caused a nation to make a widespread decision only proves the dissatisfaction we hold with our current president. Despite the fact that Oprah's speech was well-written, politically correct, and contained intelligent thoughts, she is not fit to run a country.

Sophomore Christopher Maurice said, "It's contradictory, and hypocritical, for Democrats to complain about Trump and his lack of political experience, but, at the same time, support a progressive candidate who has never held any type of office." I think his point really speaks to the heart of the issue. Many people, specifically Democrats, are incredibly unhappy with the current leadership role of President Trump, and we are grasping for any beam of hope that we know would be the opposite of President Trump. Yet, what experience do these personal leaders actually posses?

Oprah is not the only celebrity or public figure who may run for office. Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson, Kevin Hart, Katy Perry, and Will Smith all have rumors surrounding their possible candidacy in the 2020 election. While each of those individuals would likely be nothing like President Trump with regards to their political views, they would hold a similar characteristic to Trump: lack of any political experience. So, while many people are eager to change the current political climate, it is important to understand that it cannot be done by simply suggesting figures who serve as leaders in their daily lives. Personal leaders are not the same as the political ones who are more fit to lead our country.

"Take two of these and call me if he still bugs you."

Interested in writing? **Share your** opinions! **Contact Michelle**

mdwillson99 @rangers.nwosu.edu

King Crossword **ACROSS** 1 Chaps Insane Location 8 Skeptical sort 10 Original "Trivial Pursuit" edition 11 Traitor Benedict 13 Monopoly avenue neighboring "Go' 28 16 Winehouse or Poehler

- 40 That woman 41 Powerful stick 9 Stick firmly
- 25 "Hey, sailor!" 26 Legend **DOWN** de Janeiro
- 28 Occurrence 30 Hot tub
- 33 1970s TV hospital drama

17 Wooden

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21 Fischer's

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18 I love (Lat.) 19 Big party

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- 24 Try 25 Upper limb
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- currency
- 29 Worth "Beat the 30 Clock" chal-
- lenge 31 Nuisance
- 32 Exist 34 Quaint stopovers
- 35 Midday

Answers on page 4

The not so boring town of Alva



Photos by Corey Shirey

Rialto Theater and Browns Shoe Fit Co. are both in downtown Alva on Flynn Street.



Cookie's Bowl and Cafe is located at 206 E Oklahoma Blvd. Open Tuesday through Saturday.



The Wild Hair is located at 504 $\rm E\ Flynn\ St.$



The BCM is located on 1020 College Boulevard it holds free lunches for students every Wed.



Alva's Post Office is found on 408 Government St.

By COREY SHIREY Student Writer

Three years ago I transferred to Northwestern. I left the hectic life that I had at the University of Central Oklahoma because I wanted something a little calmer. Little did I know that I would get more than I bargained for.

Now, I knew Alva was small. I had visited this quant community once before as a freshman in High School for a marching band competition. The few memories I had of this place were anything but inspiring. To small. To quiet. To nothing.

I'm happy to say that after three years of living here, of making my life here, I was wrong. Now, sure, Alva is small and quiet. But it's only boring if you make it boring. This town has gone out of its way to support Northwestern and to ensure that her students feel welcomed. What other college town do you know of that has a sales tax in place to help pay for scholarships?

Living in this town pushes you to grow, to use your imagination, and to break out of your comfort zone. The way Alva is designed, as a college town, but yet never losing its small town charm, incentivizes you to build new relationships and make new friendships. From the ladies who cut your hair at "The Wild Hair" Salon, to the servers who give you ice cream at Holders Pharmacy, you'll never miss a good conversation and a friendly smile.

We appreciate the community of Alva, and the citizenry who go out of their way to make us students feel welcomed. Thank You.



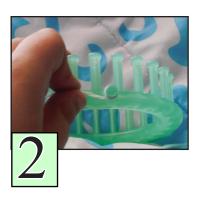
Holder Drug is Alva's Pharmacy, Gift Shop and Ice Cream parlor. You can find them at 513 Barnes St.



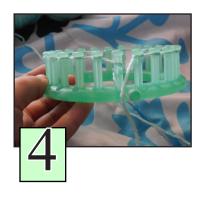
Banc Central is located at 604 Flynn St.

How to make hats with loop knit



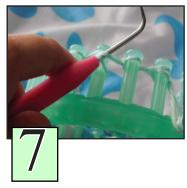














By SABREENA BURKS Student Writer

- 1) First thing that is needed to knit is a loop ring, sewing needle, knitting needle and yarn
- 2) Wrap some yarn on the bottom peg in order to keep the knitting in place
- 3) Next begin by wrapping the first peg in any way one time then go on to the next one
- 4) After wrapping the pegs on the loop, push down the yarn and begin the second row
- 5) Once the second row is set, take the knitting needle and begin by putting the bottom yarn over the first
- 6) As the hat is getting longer, take the yarn that is on the bottom peg and unwrap it
- 7) Continue with the knitting until the hat is long enough
- 8) When the hat is long enough, take the sewing needle with the length of yarn cut and begin to go over the pegs to close the hat
- 9) After sewing the hat up, fold up the bottom part of the hat and relax



Feature

Themed traveling: worth it

By **DEITRA WEDD** News Editor

Fans of Harry Potter have plenty of destination in which to explore, especially in the streets of London.

This is just one theme of many that travelers can use for themed traveling. One person who's done just that, is Hannah McReynolds a student who frequently travels. Her themed traveling took place in England where she followed a trail of literature.

McReynolds visited King Cross station in London where she got to experience platform 9 3/4 and walked across the Millennium Bridge, a Harry Potter themed bridge. From visiting Anne Hathaway's Cottage. to finding the Harry Potter based spots, to learning about the door in Oxford that is said to have inspired CS Lewis to write about the wardrobe door in "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" that the children step through to get to Narnia, McReynolds said she spent much of her time enjoying the theme of the trip, even getting to ride a double

daughter's godparents walked the Camino de Santiago, which is the Catholic pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. She said they had do it in chunks over a period of several years. "That's a different kind of themed travel, not only because it is a faith-based journey but also because you are pretty much guaranteed to meet other pilgrims as you walk the Camino," Parode said. The possibilities for themed traveling are endless she said.

However, if it's difficult to come up with a theme, both cruise lines and tour operators sometimes offer themed trips. Parode said for a cruise it could be a band or members of a sports team, while a land tour theme can be focused on Biblical destinations. But those are just a few examples. "You can plan your own too," Parode said.

She said that she took a trip to some of her ancestral villages in Germany and France, making the theme of the trip genealogy. "I also dragged my husband to all the places on Prince Edward Island associated with Lucy Maud Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables



Nancy Parode is an expert traveler and writer whose been on some of her own themed traveling trips.



Nancy Parode, an expert traveler and writer whose been interviewed by the New York Times, also shared some of her experiences with traveling. She said that themed traveling happens when a trip is planned around a particular theme. "It can be anything," Parode said.

"Imagine going on a cruise with people who share your obsession, knitting for example, you can have the fun of a cruise vacation plus an opportunity to meet and craft with like-minded people," Parode said. "Or imagine a road trip on some of the most eclectic parts of Route 66 (this is a very popular trip) if you are into road trips or all things retro."

One road trip that Parode said she would like to take is a trip to all the places Laura Ingalls Wilder and her family lived. "I would have to do it in chunks, as Laura lived in several states," Parode said.

She also talked about how her

books." Parode said.

This is where themed traveling can get tricky. Issues that come with themed traveling include popularity, scheduling and travel companions. "If your preferred theme is popular (think Anne of Green Gables on PEI in the summertime), you might have difficulty finding accommodations unless you plan far ahead," Parode said. "If you are touring stadiums, you have to plan around your team's home game schedule because tours are not offered on home game weekends."

As for traveling companions, sticking to a theme may be fun for one person but if traveling with others that same theme may not interest them as much. Parode said that in this case it's easy to feel rushed to get through the sites or museums to minimize the other persons boredom. "My husband isn't an Anne of Green Gables fan, but he was very willing to go to some Anne sites on PEI," Parode said. "However, he wasn't thrilled about going to all the Anne sites, so we added some non-Anne stops to our itinerary to make the trip a bit more interesting for him."

While compromising on places to visit and time spent at each place might be necessary when traveling with others, themed travel can work well for families. Parode said that her interest in genealogy has taken her to cemeteries during thunderstorms, mayors' homes, tiny museums and many other places, some of which young children don't enjoy. "My husband took care of our children, so I could do research and interview people, which was wonderful, but when you are into genealogy there is never enough time to do all the research," Parode said.

One good thing for the children is that they "have actually been to several of their ancestral towns and villages, and they have a real appreciation for their ancestors' homelands and cultures, especially the food," Pardoe said.

food, books, movies or any other

theme to be thought of, is quickly becoming a common way of traveling. According to Travel Weekly's senior editor, Jamie Biesiada, last year's "AAA survey of travelers, showed about 22 million Americans were expecting to take a culinary-focused vacation." And last year the U.S. was the sixth leading country in the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index. Biesiada wrote in her article, AAA survey shows interest in culinary travel growing, that 88% of Millennials surveyed stated that they have participated in culinary themed traveling. While McReynolds is a millennial who enjoyed the theme of her trip to London, she also found enjoyment in things that didn't necessarily stick to the theme. "The London tube was scarier than any roller coaster that I have ever been on," McReynolds said.

Amanda Kendle an Australian traveler who's visited more than This theme-based traveling for thirty countries and works as a travel blogger, said that one downside

to themed traveling is that it is easy to get so focused on the theme that missing out on other great things going on can become an issue. "So, make sure you allow time to experience stuff that may not be on your themed trip's agenda but might still really interest you," Kendle said.

McReynolds also varied from her theme by going to see Billy Elliot the musical in London. While riding the tube and watching Billy Elliot didn't necessarily stick to the theme, McReynolds said she was not ready to leave the amazing city.

But, while traveling to Ireland during that same trip, McReynolds' trip took on a different theme. One of celebration. McReynolds said she got to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Ireland. She also got to experience the parade and even sit through a service in St. Patrick's Cathedral. "I also got to fulfill my dream of spending my birthday in Ireland," she said.



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Entertainment



Photo courtesy Entertainment Weekly

Oscars 2018 causes confusion

By BROOKE MCCLELLAND

TV Reviewer

The 2018 Oscars was full of funny one-liners, letdowns, awkward moments, and a platform used for strong women to prove that they a force to be reckoned

Jimmy Kimmel started the night with an 11-12 minute monologue that highlighted certain issues that won't be easily fixed, and predictably made many jokes concerning movies, fellow celebrities, and the massive screw up between Moonlight and La Land for Best Picture from the previous year.

Tiffany Haddish and Maya Rudolph absolutely stole the show. They were funny, sarcastic, and surprisingly relatable every time they walked on stage to present an award.

There were those that went so far as to proclaim that the pair should do a Thelma and Louis reboot. No word if that will ever happen but many people on social media do agree that the actresses should consider it.

The Show itself was fine, a predictable awards ceremony that showcased its nominees and fellow celebrities.

Naturally, the show did go over which has become an anticipated annoyance. The winners of the night deserved their wins, no doubt about that, but there will always be those who feel that others in their respective categories deserved the win more.

Nevertheless, the only major gripe about the Oscars was how did Boss Baby even get nominated? Seriously, a lot of people are still confused over that, but least a legit contender for the category won.

The Oscars, or any award show, wouldn't be the same without some awkward interactions and some shade being thrown at people.

Like Jennifer Lawrence overshooting the aisles to get to her seat, which resulted in her climbing over the seats in a dress that cost thousands of dollars while balancing a glass of white wine.

Or Tiffany Haddish cutting in line on the red carpet so she could greet Meryl Streep (who definitely looked like the evil Fairy Godmother from Shrek 2). How about Taraji P. Henson totally shading Ryan Seacrest before the awards (though she later denies it).

The 2018 Oscars are over, and though we'll be talking about it for the next week or so, no one will really care until it comes back around next year. Here's to hoping it'll be better then.





Graphic Provided

Accourding to viewers, Meryl Streeps' red carpet look resembled Fairy Godmother from the movie "Shrek 2"

2018 Oscar Winners

Best Picture:

"The Shape of Water"

Director:

Guillermo del Toro, "The Shape of Water"

Actor: Gary Oldman, "Darkest Hour"

Actress:

Frances McDormand, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"

Supporting Actor:

Sam Rockwell, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"

Supporting Actress: Allison Janney, "I, Tonya"

Animated Short:

"Dear Basketball"

Live Action Short:

"The Silent Child"

Documentary Short:

"Heaven Is a Traffic Jam on the 405"

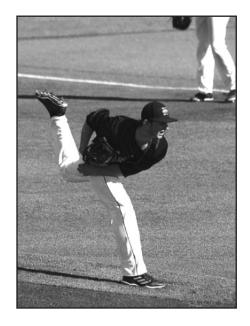
Score:

"The Shape of Water"

Song:

"Remember Me" from "Coco"









LEFT: Ryan Marcoccia pitches the ball. CENTER: TJ Kassner lines up to hit the ball. RIGHT: Judah Zickafoose reaches to catch the ball.

Baseball defeated on road

By MEGAN MAHARRY Sports Reporter

The Ranger baseball team dropped the three-game series to Southeastern Oklahoma State University on the road.

In game one, two runs scored by Southeastern in the bottom of the eigth handed the Rangers an

The Rangers were down by five runs in the second inning, but scored runs in the sixth and seventh inning to take the lead 8-7. Southeastern loaded the bases in

the bottom of the eighh and the two runs came in off a tagged up runner and a single.

Redshirt junior pitcher Johnnuelle Ponce dominated on the mound going 4-for-4. He also had a home run and three RBI's.

The Rangers turned around to play a double-header against Southeastern on Saturday. The Rangers dropped both games.

In game two, the Rangers fell 8-3.

The Rangers had trouble keeping Southeastern off the board as the Rangers did not score a run until the sixth inning.

Redshirt junior pitcher Cole Jackson started for the Rangers, but gave up five doubles and three runs after three innings.

Game three looked more promising for the Rangers, but a rally in the fourth inning by Southeastern handed the Rangers their third loss of the weekend, 7-6.

The Rangers kicked the game off with a home run in the first inning from junior Judah Zickafoose. Ponce gave the Rangers another run in the third with his fifth

big fly of the season. Zickafoose had another big shot in the fourth, this time a three-run homer.

Depsite the 5-1 lead, Southeastern came back to score five runs in the fourth and another in the sixth, ultimately taking the victory.

Both Zickafoose and Ponce both finished the day with five home runs on the year.

Zickafoose had an exceptional day at the plate, going 5-for-7 with three home runs and five RBI's to go along with a stolen base.



Judah Zickafoose, had a career day, going 5-for-seven at the plate and having three home runs.

Softball picks up conference win

By MEGAN MAHARRY Sports Reporter

The Lady Ranger softball team picked up their first conference win at home against Southeastern Oklahoma State University. In a four-game series, the Lady Rangers went 1-3.

The Lady Rangers dropped both games on Friday afternoon.

In game one, Southeastern took a 6-2 victory. The first run of the game did not come until the fourth inning on a home run from senior Madi Parrott. The only other run scored for the Lady Rangers came from another solo home run by sophomore Peyton Garrett.

Southeastern, however, scored five runs in the fifth and one in the seventh, taking the victory.

In game two, senior Karly Murray started off in the circle and pitched well, throwing five strikeouts. Despite quality pitching, the Lady Rangers dropped the game 6-5.

Southeastern scored first, tagging four runs in three innings to take the lead. The Lady Rangers came to life in the bottom of the third inning.

Estrella Guardiola started



Madison Garza pitches the first ball.

the homers in the third and was followed up by Parrott in the fourth, Brittany Corrales in the fifth and Macy Madewell in the sixth to knot it up.

The game went an extra inning into the 8th, where Southeastern scored two runs and the Lady Rangers were able to come away with just one.

Games three and four took place on Saturday, and the Lady Rangers went 1-for-1.

It was game three that the Lady Rangers took the 13-8 vic-

The bats were hot for the Lady Rangers as they hit five home runs during game one. Pitcher Madison Garza shut down the



Jordan Sutton has the ball lined up and is ready to hit it.

Southeastern offense with five strikeouts from the circle.

The final game of the series proved tough for the Lady Rangers as they fell 9-6.

The Lady Rangers led 5-4 after five innings, but Southeastern came back in the top of the sixth to score five runs and seal the victory.

Senior Brittany Corrales went

5-for-7 on the day and scored six runs between the two games.

Senior Madison McGraw had a stellar afternoon as well at the plate, going 5-for-8 during the two games and totaled three runs and four RBIs all together.

The Lady Rangers next play East Central on the road for a double-header.

Sports





Ranger. It's not just a name on omt of a jersey, we take pride in

everything we do."
Treyvon Adres, GAC Newcomer of the Year

The Northwestern Oklahoma State men's basketball team took down Southern Arkansas University in the opening round of the 2018 Great American Conference Postseason Tournament, 76-71. This advanced the Rangers to the semifinals where they competed against the Arkansas-Monticello Boll Weevils. The Rangers fell 68-58 in a hard fought game.

In the first game, Northwestern got started early establishing a 13-4 lead that was spurred by three-pointers from Halvorson and Oglesby.

The Rangers made just 5-of-11 shots to start the game, but collected three offensive rebounds that all resulted in second-chance points.

Six straight points from Minor extended the lead to double-digits at 23-11 as the Rangers continued to keep the Muleriders off balance on the offensive side of the ball. Southern Arkansas hit just six of their first 17 shots and were unable to connect on a three-point basket until the 6:45 mark of the opening half.

The Muleriders used that threepoint make to generate an 8-0 run leading up to the 6:10 mark that narrowed the margin down to just four at 23-19. Halvorson and Oglesby connected on their second back-toback three point conversion stretch of the opening half to quickly extend the lead back out to 10 just two minutes later at 29-19.

A 10-4 run during the final five minutes of the first half in favor of the Muleriders brought the halftime score to 33-32.

A bucket just a few seconds into the second half gave Southern Arkansas their first lead of the contest at 34-33. Both teams continued to battle throughout a high-paced start to the second half of action before four consecutive points from Cedric Collinge gave the Rangers a slight 41-40 advantage with 14:46 remaining in the game.

The Rangers extended their lead to seven thanks to a Green three-pointer that put Northwestern ahead 55-48 with 10:14 remaining in the game.

Southern Arkansas was able to keep the game close, getting the advantage back to just two at 55-53, before consecutive lay-ups from Northwestern brought the score to 59-53 with 7:15 remaining in the game. A quick Halvorson three continued to build the Ranger momentum as they finally began to pull away from Southern Arkansas and brought the advantage to nine at 64-55 with 5:07 remaining on the clock.

Green once again came through in the spotlight for the Rangers and completed a steal-and-score to continue to build the advantage to 70-59 with 2:28 remaining.

Southern Arkansas answered that run from the Rangers with seven consecutive points to narrow the lead to just four with 1:30 remaining on

Collinge connected on a crucial tip-in to end the Northwestern scoring draught and make the score 72-66

with under a minute to go. Minor made the hustle play of the night after missing both free throw attempts with 41 seconds remaining on the clock and secured his own offensive rebound to set-up Oglesby with the opportunity to draw contact and hit both free throws to effectively end the Muleriders chance at getting back into the game with the score at 74-67.

Coming into the semi finals, the Rangers were ranked 8th overall in the Central Region.

The semi-final game on the men's side started out as a good one and it remained that way throughout the first 20 minutes of play. It was a battle for advantage early on, and UAM gained it first, going on a huge 11-0 run to make their lead 20-10.

The run was immediately followed up by a large Ranger comeback as well, of seven straight points, bringing it back to a threepoint game at 20-17.

Both teams started to lock down on defense after the onslaught of scoring on both ends of the court as

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polarized or
regular
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Mon.&Thurs: 8-5:30 Tues.&Wed. 504 College Alva, Okla 7:30-5:30 After Closed 12-1 5:15 Daily Appointment 580-829-20 each squad went dry for nearly three

When the scoring started to pick up again, it was a battle throughout the rest of the half, but the Weevils never relinquished their lead over the designated home team.

Northwestern was only allowed the lead twice in the entirety of the first period of play and it was at 7-5 and 10-9.

The closest the Rangers would get in the final minutes of the half was two, but the Weevils were able to push it back to six, which is where it would stay, 37-31.

Once again in the second period, the Boll Weevils started out hot, going up by 11 right out of the gates, but a 6-0 run, fueled by Andres made it five again in a short amount of time.

Andres came out with an agenda

in the second half as he was quickly to 16 points and had it by the nine minute mark and it was a big part of the Rangers getting back into the

No matter how close the home team would get, the Weevils would step right back on the pedal and push it back to 10.

For the better part of five minutes in the final period of play, Monticello and Northwestern played some cat and mouse, where neither team was willing to give up a bucket without the other getting one as well.

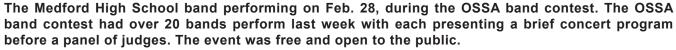
Northwestern got it back to within five on three separate occasions and made it a three-point game with 2:33 left in the matchup, but that would be as close as they could get as it would finish out as a 10-point deficit for the Rangers.



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OSSA bands perform for contest









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